Literacy Lab: Connecting reading, writing and technology

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School Facts

- Suburban elementary school
- 500 pupils grades K-5, 4 bilingual Hispanic classes
- Midway between Philadelphia and Baltimore
- 33 award-winning teachers and 13 support staff
- Delaware State Testing Program (DSTP), Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), DIBELS, ACCESS, District Common Assessments
- Large After-School Program
Goal #1 for Literacy Lab

Meet educational needs of all learners

Equal access to technology
After School program
Scholastic Reading Inventory/ Reading Counts
Rosetta Stone
Goal #2 for Literacy Lab

Improve Student Writing

Higher scores on the DSTP
Higher academic achievement
Improved communication skills
Making the Connection

- Teacher uses literature to **model** the focus writing skill or genre.

- Students “quick write” to **practice** the modeled skill.

- Teacher may assign a genre, but students always have **personal choice** of topic.

- Students **share** their writing with others.
The Technology Component

- Word Processing
- Effective Feedback (Embedded Commentary)
- Visual Rhetoric
- Multimedia
- Software
- Internet
- Blogs
- Wikis
Word Processing

- Type To Learn
- Kidspiration
- Microsoft Office Word
- Individual Folders
- Spell Check
- Dictionary, Thesaurus
Effective Feedback

- Reviewing Toolbar
- Insert Comments
- Track Changes
- Accepting or rejecting Changes
- Using Macros to customize comments
- Assessment Rubrics
- Versions
Visual Rhetoric

- Choice of Font
- **Choice of font size**
- Choice of Color
- **Choice of Effects**
- Art
- Sounds
Multimedia
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Summary Points

Key Learning:
- Literacy Lab contributes to student achievement.
- Use of technology motivates students to write.
- Parent awareness and permissions contribute to student safety.

Challenges:
- Crashes, glitches, viruses, outdated hardware
- First to go in budget crunch